

I urge all Americans to join in honoring all members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have been held prisoners of war. I also encourage all Americans to join in saluting these individuals for their great sacrifices. Finally, I call on State and local officials, as well as private organizations, to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:47 a.m., April 12, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on April 13.

**Proclamation 6342—National
Preschool Immunization Week, 1993**
April 9, 1993

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

I believe that each child in this country must have the opportunity to live a healthy and full life. Therefore, I am taking dramatic steps to ensure that all children are fully immunized at the earliest appropriate age against preventable, infectious diseases.

Immunizations save lives, prevent suffering, and allow significant savings in health care costs. Ironically, in this country, which develops and produces the majority of the world's vaccines, current immunization levels among two-year-olds fall between just 37 and 56 percent. In the recent measles epidemic, for example, an estimated one-half of the reported cases occurred among unvaccinated preschool children. Today, measles vaccine coverage is reported to be as low as 50 percent among two-year-olds in some inner-city populations.

My Administration has launched a comprehensive initiative on immunization, including new funding for immunization programs in cities throughout the United States.

In addition, I have submitted legislation that, if passed, would provide for free vaccinations to all children, a new tracking system to help inform parents when immunization is needed, new avenues of outreach to parents, and other necessary measures designed to create a comprehensive immunization program.

We must expand our efforts to every community and demand the full attention and cooperation of everyone in our society in order to find solutions to our problems. Much is being done. Federal, State, and local governments are devising innovative ways to deliver vaccines at more reasonable costs. We are attempting to make providers more sensitive to the need to eliminate barriers and problems that cause children to miss immunizations. New partnerships and coalitions are being formed between the public and private sectors.

Parents and adults responsible for safeguarding our youngest children must be made aware of the seriousness of the problem and act appropriately. More than 80 percent of all recommended vaccinations should be given before children are two years old—well before they start school.

We must acknowledge this problem, accept our individual and collective responsibilities, and get the job done.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the last full week of April as National Preschool Immunization Week, beginning with April 1993. I call upon all Americans, especially parents and health care providers, to do their part to help in this fight and to observe this week annually with appropriate activities and recognition ceremonies.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:40 a.m., April 12, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on April 13.

Nomination of Harold Palmer Smith To Be Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Atomic Energy

April 9, 1993

The President will nominate Harold Palmer Smith to be Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Atomic Energy. Mr. Smith, a trained nuclear engineer, has advised the Defense Department in a variety of capacities since the late 1960's.

"Through his long career of public and private sector service, Harold Palmer Smith has distinguished himself with sound scientific advice," said the President. "I am glad to have him joining Secretary Aspin at the Pentagon."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

April 3

In the morning, the President traveled to Vancouver, Canada, where he met with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. Later in the morning, President Clinton and President Boris Yeltsin of Russia attended a luncheon hosted by Prime Minister Mulroney.

In the afternoon, President Clinton and President Yeltsin toured the Museum of Anthropology.

In the evening, President Clinton hosted a working dinner for President Yeltsin.

April 4

In the morning, the President attended Palm Sunday services at the First Baptist Church in Vancouver.

April 5

In the early morning, the President returned to Washington, DC, from Vancouver, Canada.

April 6

The President announced his approval of the appointments by Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown of Kent Hughes to be Associate Deputy Secretary and Wilbur Hawkins to be Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development.

April 8

In the morning, the President met with Secretary of Defense Les Aspin and the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

Later in the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Little Rock, AR, where they stayed overnight.

April 9

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton attended a memorial service for Hillary Clinton's father, Hugh Rodham, at the Court Street United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

The White House announced the President will send to Congress proposed legislation to extend congressional fast track procedures to conclude the Uruguay round of the multilateral trade negotiations.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted April 5

J. Brian Atwood,
of the District of Columbia, to be Administrator of the Agency for International Development.

Jerry D. Klepner,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, vice Steven B. Kelmar.

Elizabeth Ann Reike,
of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, vice John M. Sayre, resigned.